

From: dafeinberg@home.com
To: "HIPAAlive Discussion List" <hipaalive@lists.hipaalert.com>
Date: 11/28/00 2:41PM
Subject: [hipaalive] Re: data element

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data elementIn response to a similar question earlier today [believe it or not :-)], Stanley Nachimson of HCFA provided the guidance below.

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----- Original Message -----

From: "Stanley Nachimson" <SNachimson@hcfa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2000 5:45 AM
Subject: Minimum and Maximum data element field lengths -Reply

Our interpretation has been that you must be able to accept and process transactions with data elements that meet the implementation guide (ie that fall anywhere from the minimum ot the maximum). Your system must be able to accept Address Information up to 55 bytes, and process it accordingly. If this comes in on a claim, you must be able to store the 55 bytes somewhere for forwarding on to the next payer in a COB situation.

----- Original Message -----

From: Welker, Ron
To: HIPAAlive Discussion List
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2000 11:17 AM
Subject: [hipaalive] data element

In the transaction specifications, each data element has a minimum and a maximum length, for example the patient last name has a maximum length of 35. Does this mean that if the data element has a maximum length of 35, that the field in the software application, practice management software, for patient last name must be a length of 35 or can it be different length such as 25 characters?

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